REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Official Action sets forth an anticipatory rejection of all of the claims in this application based on the disclosure in U.S. Patent No. 5,782,805 Meinzer et al. (Meinzer). This document discloses a medical infusion pump 10 that includes one or more pump module portions 16 together with a main body portion 14. The main body portion 14 is provided with an LCD providing a user interface with the pump. The main body also includes various data-entry keys 25 allowing data entry. A vacuum fluorescent display area 29 is also provided on each pump module 16.

One aspect of the claimed medical pump monitoring system not disclosed in Meinzer involves the control unit that controls the display unit. Claim 1 defines the infusion circuitry creating unit that creates infusion circuitry data defining connection conditions of infusion lines from the medical pumps, and administration passes and/or administration positions for the patient. The claim then goes on to recite that the control unit controls the display unit to display the created infusion circuitry data in a pump information display area on a monitor screen of the display unit according to operations by an operator of the medical pump monitoring system. As claimed, the pump information display area also displays respective operation conditions of the different medical pumps in a visually distinguishing manner to visually indicate a normal operation condition, an alarm condition, an interruption of the administration operation and a medical pump non-connected condition. The claim further recites that the pump information display area includes areas for displaying pump flow amounts, areas for displaying pump alarm information, areas for displaying pump

administered drug information, and an area for displaying the infusion circuitry for delivering medical fluids to the patient according to the created infusion circuitry data.

In setting forth the rejection, the Official Action quotes verbatim from the wording in independent Claim 1, but does not provide a meaningful explanation of the portion of the disclosure in Meinzer corresponding to the various aspects of the medical pump monitoring system recited in Claim 1, other than two general references to the Meinzer disclosure. In one respect, the Official Action indicates that the display area 23 in Meinzer together with the vacuum fluorescent display area 29 constitute the display unit as claimed. The Official Action also indicates that the discussion in columns 6-8 of Meinzer describes an infusion circuitry creating unit.

Based on a study of the Meinzer disclosure, there is no description of a control unit such as recited in Claim 1 -- a control unit controlling Meinzer's display unit 23/29 to display created infusion circuitry data with information from the medical pumps connected according to the created infusion circuitry data in a pump information display area on a monitor screen of the display unit 23/29. Simply stated, there is no mention in Meinzer of displaying created infusion circuitry data in a pump information display area on a monitor screen of the display unit.

Meinzer also does not disclose that the pump information display area on the monitor screen of the display unit includes an area displaying respective operation conditions of different medical pumps in a visually distinguishing manner, areas displaying medical pump flow amounts, areas displaying medical pump alarm information, areas displaying pump administered drug information, and an area

displaying the infusion circuitry for delivering medical fluids to the patient according to the created infusion circuitry data.

In the event the "visually distinguishable" language in Claim 1 is not considered sufficiently descriptive, Claim 1 is amended to recite the different conditions being color-distinguishable. This further differentiates the medical pump monitoring system at issue here over the disclosure in Meinzer.

The Official Action also refers to the disclosure in U.S. Patent No. 7,109,878 to Mann et al. (Mann). However, this reference does not address the deficiencies pointed out above and so a combination of the disclosures in Meinzer and Mann does not render unpatentable the claimed pump monitoring system recited in independent Claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of record and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

The dependent claims define additional distinguishing aspects associated with the invention. These claims are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable independent Claim 1 and so a detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing features recited in these dependent claims is not presented at this time. Applicant reserves the right to present such arguments later during prosecution or on appeal.

Early and favorable action concerning this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful

in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: February 28, 2011 By: _____

Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

Customer No. 21839
703 836 6620